

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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R 131135Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9750

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSSAG NKP THAI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 4585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PFOR, CB

SUBJECT: SIHANOUK AND THE 2ND GRUNK/FUNK NATIONAL CONGRESS

REF: (A) FBIS BANGKOK 261255Z FEB 75

(B) FBIS LONDON 071241Z MAR 75

(C) FBIS OKINAWA 121415 Z MAR 75

1. SUMMARY. SIHANOUK, WHO IN A JANUARY INTERVIEW ON SWEDISH TELEVISION, HINTED THAT HE MIGHT BE WILLING TO UNBEND A LITTLE TOWARD TOP GKR LEADERS, HAS NOW ACQUIESCED IN THE DECISION OF THE 2ND GRUNK/FUNK NATIONAL CONGRESS TO EXECUTE THE "SEVEN TRAITORS". END SUMMARY.

2. SIHANOUK IN REMARKS OVER SWEDISH TELEVISION IN EARLY JANUARY SAID THAT SIRIK MATAK AND SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ (HE LATER AMPLIFIED THIS TO INCLUDE LONG BORET AND CHENG HENG) HAD CONTACTED HIM EXPRESSING INTEREST IN JOINING FUNK. SIHANOUK IMPLIED THAT EVEN FOR SOME OF THE ROSTER  
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OF SEVEN PRINCIPAL GKR "VILLIANS"(THE FOUR MENTIONED ABOVE PLUS LON NOL, IN TAM AND SON NGOC THANH) THIS MIGHT BE

POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH HE CONCEDED HIS IN-COUNTRY COLLEAGUES HAD NOT APPROVED THESE SENTIMENTS. IN FACT, THE KC PROPAGANDA MEDIA HAS NEVER COMMENTED DIRECTLY ON SIHANOUK'S REMARKS BROADCAST IN SWEDEN. HOWEVER, THE FEB. 24-25 SESSION OF THE SECOND GRUNK/FUNK "GREAT NATIONAL CONGRESS" (REF A) ENUNCIATED AS ITS PRINCIPAL DECISION THE NECESSITY FOR KILLING THE "SEVEN TRAITORS". COMMENT: THE CONGRESS HAS BEEN GIVEN EXTREMELY INTENSIVE COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA COVERAGE IN AND OUT OF CAMBODIA, AND ITS PRONOUNCEMENTS ARE BEING CONVERTED INTO MAJOR POLICY STATEMENTS, WITH THE DECISION TO KILL THE SEVEN GETTING TOP BILLING. END COMMENT.

3. SIHANOUK IN TWO RECENT INTERVIEWS WITH LE MONDE (REF B) AND WITH FRENCH TV AND RADIO (REF C) REPEATED AND TACITLY ACCEPTED THE DECISION TO KILL THE SEVEN. HE EMPHASIZED IN BOTH INTERVIEWS THE COROLLARY POINT OF THE CONGRESS THAT ALL OTHER PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE GKR, MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE OTHER SIDE, PROVIDED THEY END THEIR CURRENT PRO-GKR EFFORTS "NOT TOO LATE", WHICH SEEMS A SOMEWHAT FLEXIBLE STANDARD. SIHANOUK ADDED THAT THIS PROVES THE KC ARE NOT INTENDING TO CARRY OUT A BLOOD BATH. COMMENT: THE INTENTION TO KILL THE SEVEN, ALTHOUGH PERIODICALLY MENTIONED IN PAST KC AND SIHANOUK PROCLAMATIONS, HAS NOW APPARENTLY BEEN ELEVATED TO DOGMA, WHICH IS A SIGNIFICANT HARDENING OF THE POSITION OF THE FIRST CONGRESS IN JULY, 1973. THAT SIMPLY SAID THE LEADERS (AT THAT TIME, SIX) WOULD HAVE TO BE OVERTHROWN AND THEIR FATE DECIDED BY THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. THE IN-COUNTRY LEADERSHIP BY NOW DECIDING TO ELIMINATE PHYSICALLY LON NOL, SIRIK MATAK, ETC. MAY HAVE INTENDED SPECIFICALLY TO REBUFF SIHANOUK AND HIS VENTURE ON SWEDISH TELEVISION. IN ADDITION, THE KC, BY FOCUSSED THEIR VENOM ONLY ON THE SEVEN AND INDICATING THAT ALL OTHERS CAN BE SPARED, PROBABLY HOPES BOTH TO INFLUENCE WAVERING ELEMENTS IN CAMBODIA AND TO DAMPEN GROWING SPECULATION ABOUT POSSIBLE MAS-SACRES FOLLOWING A KC VICTORY. THEY ALSO OF COURSE  
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LEAVE THEMSELVES THE OPTION OF CHOOSING WHO RALLIES SOON ENOUGH TO AVOID EXTINCTION OR SOME LESS SERIOUS FATE. IN ANY CASE, SIHANOUK'S OVERTURE OVER SWEDISH TELEVISION, IF SUCH IT WAS, HAS NOW BEEN OVERTAKEN BY THE CONGRESS DECISION. END COMMENT.  
DEAN

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## Message Attributes

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